

pathology, hormonal changes and enzymatic aspects are each dealt with in three articles, while five are concerned with circulatory changes and five with etiologic considerations.

Several of the contributions should be singled out for special mention. The description of the pathological lesions in the hypertensive toxemias, presented by H. L. Sheehan, is superb and leaves one with the wish that this all too brief section might be expanded to monographic proportions. Dieckmann details his studies of the effects of intravenous sodium salts on the course of toxemia. He establishes the fact that 25 grams of salt per day causes an exacerbation of the toxemia syndrome in most cases (two developed convulsions and two others pulmonary edema). The protocols are of special interest, for it is doubtful whether any further reports on this type of "treatment" will appear.

Professor Kellar gives an excellent summary of the circulatory alterations in both normal and toxemic pregnancy, and Catherine Burt presents her original studies of forearm and hand blood flow during gestation. C. L. Schneider, who has written extensively in the last several years about the relation of placental thromboplastin to various complications of late pregnancy, presents a fine review of this new and intriguing subject.

With respect to etiology, the section by Theobald seems to give evidence of rather gray thinking, and Falkiner's advocacy of the placental infarct theory is somewhat trivial. Bastiaanse and Mastboom of Amsterdam present their views on the relationship of ischemia of the gravid uterus to the cause of eclampsia. This is a concept promulgated a decade ago by American investigators and further elaborated on a number of occasions since. Bastiaanse's contribution might have been improved had he chosen to refer to such work and bring it into focus with his own views.

Sommerville, deWatteville and Loraine present short articles on the hormone changes in toxemia and each of them is stimulating by virtue of instilling doubts about our prevailing concepts.

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THE SCIENCE OF HEALTH. By Florence L. Meredith, B.Sc., M.D., Fellow of the American Medical Association, American Public Health and American Psychiatric Associations. Second edition. The Blakiston Company, Philadelphia, 1951. 452 pages. \$3.75.

Should one be charitable with authors who write short texts for college hygiene courses? That there is a demand for such books is certain; whether it should be indulged is doubtful, for by reducing a large and complex subject to small compass, the student may be given a false sense of values. The only justifications are that behavior may be modified in a way conducive to good health in students who will not or cannot take a more complete course, or that a short course and a short text may arouse interest which will lead to further study. The difficulties inherent in this situation are extremely troublesome, and it takes courage to attempt the task. Dr. Meredith has made a worthy effort to condense her longer "Hygiene," and has added some new material, but whether this volume will accomplish the purposes mentioned is doubtful. It touches upon mortality and morbidity statistics, anatomy and physiology, body responses to injury, first aid, a wide variety of disease processes, mental health, and sexual functions. Caution has been exercised to avoid strong statements which might be objectionable to practicing physicians, and thus it loses impact for the authoritative drive toward healthful behavior. At the same time, the explanations are inadequate to motivate health habits on a reasoned basis, and often so superficial as neither to satisfy or stimulate further study.

Dr. Meredith excels in the presentation of material on mental health, and this portion of her book can be used by practicing physicians as prescribed reading for patients with minor anxieties, particularly those in the young adult group.

It seems strange that although mental hygiene is handled by itself very well, its principles are neglected in other parts of the book. For example, it is implied that the individual should compute his caloric needs and accurately adjust his intake to meet them. This may be a valuable exercise for the hygiene student, but to be saddled with it as a continuing necessity for maintaining good health can hardly promote peace of mind.

The outstanding deficiencies of the book are the failure to focus attention on the wonderful capacity of the human organism for adjusting to environmental changes, and insufficient emphasis on the community aspects of health promotion. Its outstanding value is its reiteration of the admonition to seek competent professional advice when things go wrong.

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THE EXCEPTIONAL CHILD IN INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD—Proceedings of the Annual Spring Conference on Education and the Exceptional Child under the Auspices of the Child Research Clinic of The Woods Schools at Langhorne, Pennsylvania, May, 1950. Six papers, 48 pages. No charge.

This pamphlet has some exceedingly interesting material on its subject. It is a compilation of a series of lectures and presentations given by various doctors and psychologists. The first one of these is by Randolph K. Byers and is on the early recognition of developmental handicaps. The second one, by Margaret E. Fries, is on the early factors in establishing object relationship. Included in this was a film on the lying-in period which, of course, could not be reproduced; but the article itself is still rich in material. The third is by Ethel B. Waring, Ph.D., on exceptional children and principles for their guidance. The others cover such subjects as play as a learning process, the eating patterns of normal and exceptional children, and the development of oral language in children.

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THE AUDIOLOGY CLINIC—A Manual for Planning a Clinic for the Rehabilitation of the Acoustically Handicapped. By Moe Bergman, Ed.D., Chief Audiologist, Audiology Clinic, New York Regional Office, Veterans Administration, New York City, U. S. A. *Acta Oto-Laryngologica*, Supplementum LXXXIX, 1950. The Audiology Foundation, 1104 Wabash Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois. \$1.00.

The philosophy of rehabilitation of the hard of hearing and the deaf was set forth and expanded during World War II. The Veterans Administration has since carried on aural rehabilitation in centers throughout the country. The author has described in detail the Veterans Administration's first audiology clinic established in New York City. The monograph sets forth the necessary physical space for various phases of aural rehabilitation and details of its arrangement. The soundproofed suite of rooms is particularly interesting since construction plans are included. Block diagrams outline the electro-acoustical equipment used. The qualifications of personnel are amply noted. The over-all organization of the clinic is shown in detail. The description of this particular clinic by the author is adequate. It must be remembered by the student that this set-up is unique and serves a limited area and number of patients. Such an elaborate clinic is expensive to build and maintain and is not within the budget of universities or colleges. However, for those persons interested in modest programs of aural rehabilitation this monograph can be used advantageously for reference since it includes all organizational phases of the subject, even to the point of listing manufacturers of electro-acoustical equipment.

This is the first successful comprehensive attempt by any author to bring together all the multiple organizational phases of the subject and in the field of aural rehabilitation this monograph will take its place as a standard for other workers. As the author points out, the details of specific communicative skills are not included, so such information must be sought elsewhere.